

2-28-00

#2/2/00
1. Pa
5-8-00
H
A

ARTHROCARE CORPORATION

595 N. Pastoria Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-2916
(408) 736-0224
Customer No. 21394

Atty. Docket No. S-3-1

"Express Mail" Label No. EK475751962US

Date of Deposit February 24, 2000

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office
to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date
indicated above and is addressed to: Assistant
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231By: [Signature]

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 CFR §1.53(b) is the
[] patent application, [X] continuation patent application,
[] divisional patent application, or [] continuation-in-part patent application ofInventor(s)/Applicant Identifier: RONALD A. UNDERWOOD, TERRY S. DAVISON, HIRA V. THAPLIYAL and PHILIP
E. EGGERS

For: METHODS FOR ELECTROSURGICAL TISSUE CONTRACTION WITHIN THE SPINE (as amended)

- [X] This application claims priority from each of the following Application Nos./filing dates:
09/026,698/ February 20, 1998; 08/690,159/ July 18, 1996 the disclosure(s) of which is (are) incorporated by reference.
- [X] Please amend this application by adding the following before the first sentence: This application is a [X] continuation [] division of and
claims the benefit of U.S. Application No. 09/026,698 / February 20, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of 08/690,159 / July 18, 1996 the
disclosure of which is incorporated by reference.

Enclosed are:

- [X] 34 sheet(s) of [] formal [X] informal drawing(s); specification including description, claims and abstract; [X] title page.
- [X] A copy of the assignment of the invention to ArthroCare Corporation.
- [X] A copy of the [X] signed [] unsigned Declaration and Power of Attorney
- [X] A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 37 CFR 1.27 [] is enclosed [X] was filed in the prior application.
- [] A certified copy of a _____ application.
- [] Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97.
- [X] Preliminary Amendment
- [X] Please cancel claim(s) 1-31.

now U.S. Pat. No. 6,620,155,

now U.S.
Pat. No.
5,802,272,

(Col. 1)

(Col. 2)

FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA
BASIC FEE		
TOTAL CLAIMS	16 -20=	* 0
INDEP CLAIMS	2 -3=	* 0
[] MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED		

SMALL ENTITY

RATE	FEE
	\$345
X9=	\$
X39=	\$
+130=	\$
TOTAL	\$

OR

OTHER THAN A
SMALL ENTITY

RATE	FEE
	\$690
X18=	\$
X78=	\$
+260=	\$
TOTAL	\$

* If the difference in Col. 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in Col. 2

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0359 as follows:

- [X] Filing fee
- [X] Any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application
- [] The issue fee set in 37 CFR 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b).

\$ 345.00

- [] A check for \$ _____ is enclosed.
- 1 extra copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
ARTHROCARE CORPORATION

ph: (408) 736-0224

John T. Raffle
Reg. No.: 38,585

45

a